

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ATHENS 00658 211542Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INT-05 GSA-02 L-03 FEA-01  
ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00  
FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04  
USIA-15 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10  
PA-02 PRS-01 /122 W

-----212017Z 128940 /43

R 211334Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8781

INFO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 0658

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, GR

SUBJECT: RECIPROCITY PROVISIONS OF MINERAL LEASING ACT OF 1920

REF: (A) 76 STATE 313732, (B) ATHENS A-11. (C) ATHENS A-10

1. GREEK MINING LEGISLATION DOES NOT DENY U.S. CITIZENS OR  
CORPORATIONS PRIVILEGES REFERRED TO IN PARA 1 OF REFTTEL. THERE ARE  
NO CUSTOMS OR REGULATIONS BARRING U.S. CITIZENS OR CORPORATIONS  
FROM OWNING INTEREST IN ANY LEASE OF DEPOSITS OF MINERALS. WHILE  
THE GREEK STATE HAS EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS TO EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
OF SPECIFIED MINERALS, GASES AND HYDROCARBONS (REF B), THE  
MINING CODE PROVIDES FOR LEASES BY THE STATE TO US, OTHER FOREIGN,  
OR GREEK LESSEES

2. BOTH THE GREEK MINING CODE AND RECENT LAW ON HYDROCARBON  
EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT (REF C) REQUIRE, HOWEVER, THAT  
ACQUISITION OF SUCH RIGHTS BY ALIENS MUST HAVE PRIOR APPROVAL  
OF GREEK GOVERNMENT (GOG). APPROVAL IS GIVEN ON CASE BY CASE BASIS  
CONSISTENT WITH GREEK NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERESTS

3. CURRENT GOG PRACTICE REQUIRES GREEK MAJORITY PARTICIPATION IN  
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PAGE 02 ATHENS 00658 211542Z

NEW MINERAL LEASES, BUT SENIOR MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY OFFICIALS  
CONFIRM THAT THERE ARE NO CUSTOMS OR REGULATIONS TO PRECLUDE ISSUANCE  
OF APPROVALS, ON CASE BY CASE BASIS, FOR MAJORITY FOREIGN EQUITY  
IN MINERAL LEASES. AS PROVIDED IN THE GREEK MINING CODE, HOWEVER,  
FOREIGN CITIZENS OR CORPORATIONS CAN PURCHASE ONLY MINORITY SHARES  
IN EXISTING GREEK-OWNED MINING ENTERPRISES WHICH HOLD MINERAL LEASES

4. EXCERPTS FROM THE GREEK MINING CODE AND HYDROCARBON LEGISLATION  
BEARING ON RIGHTS OF NON-GREEK CITIZENS OR CORPORATIONS TO  
LEASES OF MINERAL DEPOSITS ARE TRANSMITTED IN REF (B).  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MINING LAW, LEASES, MINERALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 313732, 77 ATHENS A-11, 77 ATHENS A-10  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3543485  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RECIPROCITY PROVISIONS OF MINERAL LEASING ACT OF 1920  
**TAGS:** EMIN, ENRG, GR, US  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009